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Police 'solidarity' alienating citizens

Vicky Mochama, metroVIEWS

SHOW ME THE MONEY

Property taxes, development levies, gas taxes and road pricing — how the region will fund 20% of the transit plan

metroNEWS

A SkyTrain passes condo buildings along Quebec Street on March 23. JENNIFER GAUTHIER/METRO

Connecting to energy savings

UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Wi-Fi technology could be a boon for Vancouver school

Wanyee Li
Metro | Vancouver

A UBC tech startup has found a way to translate students' habit of always connecting to Wi-Fi into energy savings for the university.

The software, created by Stefan Storey and his team at Sensible Building Solutions, counts the number of devices connected to the university's Wi-Fi network at any one time and sends that information to the building's control systems. That system can then turn on the heating or cooling system in each room in real time according to how many people are inside.

This means buildings outfitted with this technology are now "smart" enough to automatically turn on temperature controls to improve air flow in a lecture hall when 500 students fill the seats for a class and turn off the fan when all the students leave an hour later.

A pilot project in UBC's Irving K. Barber Library reduced the building's energy consumption by 5 per cent. The technology, called Bridge, could save the university up to $100,000 every year in energy savings if it was installed into the busiest buildings, according to UBC.

"Part of it which I find very exciting is we're not putting in new infrastructure … we're leveraging what already exists to run our buildings more efficiently," said Orion Henderson, director of energy planning and innovation.

"That's the piece that's really awesome."

The technology works best when there are large spaces that see drastic changes in occupancy — a lecture hall, for instance, said Henderson.

The Wi-Fi information is detailed enough to give UBC a map of where students are, down to a few metres but it does not collect any personal data — just the number of devices connected to the network.

Storey says he is in talks with the City of Vancouver to install Bridge in several city-owned buildings.

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Your essential daily news

The future of Gibraltar, a British territory, in a post-Brexit world is unclear. **World**

Pot rally permit problem

MARIJUANA

Board would have been able to charge 4-20 organizers $35K

Wanyee Li
Metro | Vancouver

This year's kerfuffle over whether Vancouver would give 4-20 event organizers a permit or not holds some lessons for next year, says the park board chairman.

This year's 4-20 pot rally in Vancouver will go on without a permit, making it harder for park board staff to ensure the event does not damage the park and that people are safe, said Vancouver Park Board chairman Michael Wiebe.

"It will be more difficult in the sense that we won't be able to push our policies on the organizers because they won't have to comply with our regulations."

He was in favour of granting 4-20 event organizers a permit — they applied for one last summer — but was outvoted by the board.

Permitting the event would give the board a way of recouping costs associated with extra patrols, washrooms and cleanup, he said.

The permit cost for 4-20, which attracted 25,000 people to English Bay last year, would probably cost organizers $35,000, said Wiebe.

Last year's event cost the park board about $24,000, according to a City of Vancouver spokesperson.

It also cost the city $99,400 in policing costs and $6,900 for fire and rescue services.

Marijuana advocate and 4-20 event organizer Dana Larsen has told media he will pay the city and park board back for some of the costs they take on due to this year's event, but neither he nor city officials know exactly what that would look like.

"The organizers have offered (to pay) so we will see but it's not as clear. Normally it's really structured," said Wiebe.

But one thing is for certain — the park board will not be helping event organizers host the event. That means it will close the bathrooms and concession stand at Sunset Beach.

"We will turn off the power and water," said Wiebe.

But park rangers will patrol the area to monitor any potential damage to the park, he said.

The city told Metro it is too early to know whether there will be any road closures during 4-20 this year.

Wiebe says the board will continue to oppose 4-20 events on park board land but that it is willing to work with the organizers to find a solution.

"I'm hoping they realize if they work with us we can be allies."

Thousands of people gather at Sunset Beach during the annual 4-20 cannabis culture celebration in Vancouver on April 20, 2016.
DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

> **I'm hoping they realize if they work with us we can be allies.**
> Michael Wiebe

SCIENCE

Experts to use 'whale breath' to study orcas

Researchers are hoping the exhaled breath of killer whales living off the coast of British Columbia can provide some insight into the endangered animals' health.

Post-mortem examinations of southern resident killer whales have found that a number of the animals had signs of pneumonia and scientists wanted to find out what organisms might be responsible, said Stephen Raverty, an adjunct professor at the University of British Columbia.

The orcas that live and travel through the Salish Sea have been studied for more than four decades, but the group's numbers have fallen in recent years.

They were listed as endangered in 2005 and the Washington state-based Center for Whale Research said there were 78 southern resident killer whales left as of December 2016.

Researchers believe the animals are "inadvertently being exposed to potential disease agents" in the surface water, Raverty said, so they set out to capture some of the air and droplets expelled when the whales exhale through their blowholes, using an 18-foot-long pole with petri dishes attached.

"This is essentially a non-invasive technique where we can get a glimpse into the overall health of these whales," Raverty said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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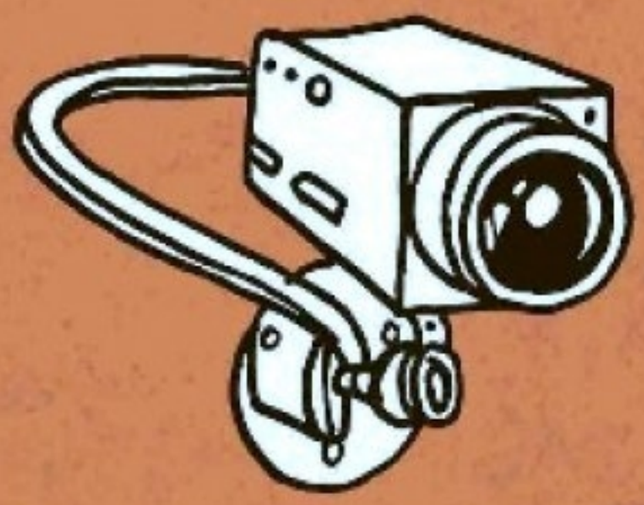

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Funding provided by the Government of Canada through the Canada-British Columbia Job Fund.

The SkyTrain crosses the Fraser River. The province and the federal government are paying $4.4 billion, or 80 per cent of the transit plan, but the region will need to raise 20 per cent by itself, which may take a while. JENNIFER GAUTHIER/METRO

No quick solution for transit funding issue

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Mayor Cote: No magic bullet to raise money for 20% of Phase 2

Matt Kieltyka
Metro | Edmonton

The Mayor of New Westminster says there is still more work to do before the region's Phase 2 transit plan becomes a reality.

Jonathan Cote said Friday's announcement that the province will match the federal government's $2.2 billion for transit projects in Metro Vancouver is a "positive step forward" to realizing the proposed light-rail lines in Surrey and the SkyTrain extension along Broadway in Vancouver.

The combined $4.4 billion covers off 80 per cent of the costs associated to the projects, which are critical components of the mayors' 10-year transit plan. But the region still hasn't decided how they will raise the remaining 20 per cent.

"There's no doubt there is still more work to do and that there is still a funding gap to deliver the next phase of the mayors' plan," said Cote. "The funding gap has gotten a lot smaller than it was but there is still funding that needs to be raised."

The region has already raised municipal property taxes, will increase transit fares and has told TransLink to sell off some of its assets to pay for this year's $2-billion Phase 1 transit improvement plan.

> **I think some of the things on the table will be looking at property taxes, development cost levies.**
>
> New Westminster Mayor Jonathan Cote

None of those increased revenues go toward Phase 2, which leaves the region to come up with other sources of revenue.

"It's probably not going to be one magic bullet solution," said Cote, speaking on behalf of the Mayors' Council on Regional Transportation. "I think some of the things on the table will be looking at property taxes, development cost levies and we're hopeful the provincial government will allow us to look at some other funding tools that currently aren't under the jurisdiction of the Mayors' Council."

In the past, the mayors have also proposed using Carbon Tax revenues to pay for transit, increasing the regional gas tax and implement road pricing.

One thing that probably won't be on the table, according to Cote, is another proposal to increase the Provincial Sales Tax regionally.

A proposed 0.5 per cent increase to the PST was soundly defeated in 2015's plebiscite on transit funding, back when the region was responsible for a third of the funding for its full transit plan.

"My gut would tell me we're not going to go down that road based on the referendum results," said Cote. "But given that we are dealing with a much smaller funding gap, whatever form of local revenue source and taxation we're talking about is significantly smaller than it was during the referendum."

Minister Responsible for TransLink Peter Fassbender told media Friday that the province is eager to see what the mayors come up with.

"We are prepared to roll up our sleeves and work together," said Fassbender.

"They have a number of ideas they are looking at. And as soon as they have those concepts and they want to bring them forward, the province will work with them and we'll move forward."

The mayors hope to have a proposed funding plan in place by the end of the year.

Sean Smith of Campbell River filed a notice of claim in B.C. Supreme Court on March 16 against Ryan LaForge, alleging he identified Smith as a pedophile on Facebook.
FACEBOOK/SURREY CREEP CATCHERS

Anti-pedophile group faces suit

COURT

Man alleges he was wrongfully identified by Creep Catchers

A vigilante group that claims to expose alleged pedophiles is facing two defamation lawsuits in British Columbia including one from a man who criticized the group's practices in an online commentary he says led to him wrongly being called a pedophile.

Sean Smith of Campbell River filed a notice of claim in B.C. Supreme Court on March 16 against the president of the Surrey Creep Catchers, Ryan LaForge, alleging he identified Smith as a pedophile in a series of public posts on Facebook.

Smith says as a result, he received response posts threatening him with death or bodily harm.

The social media consultant and educator said he created a video sharing his critical perspective on creep catcher groups because their practices are at odds with what he teaches people about online etiquette.

"The social media shaming, the accusations that are unfounded, the incitement of a social media mob to attack a person, the fact that what you post online today will never go away because the Internet never forgets — it was everything that was not right about social media," he said.

Smith is seeking damages to be determined by the court. None of the allegations made in the lawsuit have been proven in court.

The Surrey Creep Catchers is part of a loose collection of groups across Canada that claim to expose people they suspect to be child sexual predators by posing as minors online, then arrange to meet their targets so they can confront them and broadcast the footage online.

LaForge has not filed a statement of defence, but in an interview he said he is exercising his right to free speech.

"I'm allowed to have my opinion," he said. "He claims he doesn't agree with pedophilia and their acts but yet everything he does, every minute of every day he spends is to put us down and defame myself and my crew."

LaForge said he has also been the victim of negative online comments as a result of the dispute, with people "just calling me nothing, calling me useless, just derogatory names."

Smith's lawyer, John Nelson, said there is a lack of civility online, but comments made in cyberspace can have far-reaching consequences.

> I think we're starting to see more and more people seek redress for what is said. John Nelson

"I think we're starting to see more and more people seek redress for what is said ... because, simply put, cyberspace can't police itself," he said.

The notice of claim says Smith began getting negative reaction on Dec. 7 after he posted a video on Facebook criticizing the activities of creep catcher organizations without naming any individual group or person.

The court document alleges that LaForge then published a series of posts on pages he normally uses to expose targets of creep catcher sting operations, identifying Smith as a pedophile.

Photos of Smith from his Facebook page were also allegedly shared by LaForge, accompanied with comments, including one that said: "What's a pedo even look like? Oh yeah, this guy."

The statement of claim says the posts were shared widely and threatening comments were made by other Facebook users in response.

In addition to LaForge, 10 other defendants are listed in the claim by their Facebook names for having "acted in concert among themselves and with others in furtherance of their efforts to harm the reputation and economic well-being of the plaintiff."

The claim also wants the defendants to publish a statement declaring Smith innocent of any wrongdoing.

Smith's lawsuit follows another notice of claim that was filed against LaForge by Jamie Su of Abbotsford in B.C. Supreme Court on Feb. 28. Su's lawyer Christopher Terepocki says he will not comment on the case until after it has concluded.

Law enforcement officials across Canada have repeatedly expressed concern about the groups, warning the public that confronting alleged child predators could put people in danger and compromise police investigations. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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CITY OF VANCOUVER

Public Hearing: April 11, 2017

Tuesday, April 11, 2017, at 6 pm
Vancouver City Hall, 453 West 12th Avenue
Third Floor, Council Chamber

Vancouver City Council will hold a Public Hearing to consider zoning for these locations:

1. 4983 – 5007 Quebec Street
To rezone 4983-5007 Quebec Street from RS-1 (One-Family Dwelling) District to CD-1 (Comprehensive Development) District, to permit the development of a six-storey residential building with 25 co-housing dwelling units. A height of 19.8 metres (65 feet) and a floor space ratio (FSR) of 2.3 are proposed.

2. Railtown – Amendments to the Zoning and Development By-law for I-4 (Historic Industrial) District *(Item continuing from January 26, 2017 Public Hearing)*
To amend the Zoning and Development By-law to add the Creative Products Manufacturing use, and to rezone some areas of M-2 (Industrial) District within the Downtown Eastside as a new I-4 (Historic Industrial) District.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THESE APPLICATIONS INCLUDING LEGAL DESCRIPTIONS OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTIES:
vancouver.ca/rezapps or 604-873-7038

Anyone who considers themselves affected by the proposed by-law amendments may speak at the Public Hearing. Please register individually until 5 pm on the day of the Public Hearing by emailing **publichearing@vancouver.ca** or by phoning **604-829-4238**. You may also register in person at the door between 5:30 and 6 pm on the day of the Public Hearing. You may submit your comments by email to **mayorandcouncil@vancouver.ca**, or by mail to: City of Vancouver, City Clerk's Office, 453 West 12th Avenue, Third Floor, Vancouver, BC, V5Y 1V4. All submitted comments will be distributed to Council and posted on the City's website. Please visit **vancouver.ca/publichearings** for important details.

Copies of the draft by-laws are available for viewing at the City Clerk's Office in City Hall, 453 West 12th Avenue, Third Floor, Monday to Friday from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. All meetings of Council are webcast live at **vancouver.ca/councilvideo**, and minutes of Public Hearings are available at **vancouver.ca/councilmeetings** (posted approximately two business days after a meeting). For real time information on the progress of City Council meetings, visit **vancouver.ca/speaker-wait-times** or **@VanCityClerk** on Twitter.

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Immigrants back Indigenous Games

SPORTS

Latin American group helping find translators for global event

David P. Ball
Metro | Edmonton

When Ingrid Flores heard that this summer's nine-day World Indigenous Games hadn't yet secured the funding they hoped for, she saw a "once in a lifetime opportunity."

As founder and board member of Edmonton's Latin American Community Engagement Network (LACEN), Flores said many immigrants — whether newcomers to Canada or four-decade residents like herself — want to learn more about First Nations here.

But the sophomore championships, the first held two years ago in Brazil, are still short roughly $4 million of their ideal, the Games' acting executive director Jodi Calahoo-Stonehouse said.

Brazil's games cost $30 million, she said; other global sporting events can clock in at a minimum $14 million, and WIN Games planners hope for somewhere between the two.

"When I found out they're looking for funding, I asked, 'How do we help you guys make sure you have the best games you could possibly have?'" Flores said. "They needed volunteers to help translate for the Latin American nations coming.

"It started with us looking for Spanish-speaking volunteers, then they asked if we could help with Russian translation and we said we could just handle finding the bilingual immigrant volunteer base they need, so they can focus on supporting the nations they're looking to host."

And because many of the thousands of Indigenous athletes and elders coming to Alberta from July 1-9 may only speak Spanish, Russian or other major world dialects as a second language, Flores also is on the lookout for Edmontonians who actually speak some of the Indigenous mother tongues represented at the Games.

"Our job is to just provide our support," she said. "Canadian immigrants are now celebrating Canada's 150th birthday, so for us it was one of the best opportunities in the world just to get involved and be of service to the Indigenous community — and it's a very unique opportunity in our own Latino community to get involved in something a lot of us will never see again in our lifetime."

But Calahoo-Stonehouse said that while the help from LACEN has taken a huge burden off their shoulders, they are working to meet their financial goals. However the Games are "definitely happening."

"We're still working on it," said Calahoo-Stonehouse. "And we're still praying for a miracle.

"If people want to contribute we'd love to have some help.... We're hopeful, because I truly believe the federal and provincial governments want to support Indigenous Peoples in what we see as reconciliation — a form of reconciliation that uplifts our cultures."

Chief Wilton (Willie) Littlechild — Grand Chief of the Confederacy of Treaty Six First Nations — first proposed a World Indigenous Nations Games in 1977. DAVID P. BALL/METRO

'It's been a 40-year journey'

This August marks exactly 40 years since Chief Wilton Littlechild — a maverick athlete himself who's competed internationally in swimming, hockey and track — first pitched the idea at an international Indigenous conference in Sweden in 1977.

In fact, it was the World Indigenous Nations Games' host band, Enoch Cree Nation near Edmonton, that hosted the first regional competition that were the Games forebear.

So this July's event completes the circle for Littlechild.

"It's taken us a long while to realize them," said the Grand Chief of the Confederacy of Treaty Six Nations. "We didn't anticipate the humongous work necessary to host a world games, so we broke it in pieces — starting with regional Indigenous games.

"The foundation needed to be built. Now, those regional games can now converge into the world games. I'm looking forward to it personally because it's been a 40-year journey, but the games can finally come back to Canada."

As Littlechild puts it, celebrating the range of global Indigenous cultures is at the heart of the Games he envisioned.

"That's what is really unique about this: these are games played by Indigenous Peoples around the world that no one else really sees." DAVID P. BALL/METRO

CONTROVERSY

Bombardier executives to defer pay

Bombardier's CEO says he has asked the board of directors to defer the payment of some of the 2016 compensation for six senior executives until 2020.

Alain Bellemare issued a statement Sunday saying he has asked the board to hold off on paying out more than half of the total planned compensation for last year. Bellemare says it will only be paid if Bombardier achieves its performance objectives.

Bombardier has faced a criticism since it emerged last week that Bellemare, chairman Pierre Beaudoin and four senior executives were given $32.6 million US in 2016. THE CANADIAN PRESS

150 WAYS of looking at Canada

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Desperation as flood death toll tops 200

COLOMBIA

Search teams combing through debris for survivors

Townspeople desperately searched their ruined homes and the local hospital for loved ones Sunday after a torrent of water, mud and debris swept through a city in southern Colombia, causing more than 200 deaths, many of them children, and leaving hundreds more missing and injured.

Neighbourhoods were left strewn with rocks, wooden planks, tree limbs and brown muck after heavy rain caused the three rivers that surround Mocoa to rise up and surge through the city of 40,000 Friday night and early Saturday as people slept. The deluge smashed houses, tore trees out by the roots and washed cars and trucks away.

Rescuers search for survivors in Mocoa, Colombia, on Sunday.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Search-and-rescue teams combed through the debris and helped people who had been desperately clawing at huge mounds of mud by hand. Many had little left to search.

"People went to their houses and found nothing but the floor," said Gilma Diaz, a 42-year-old woman from another town who came to search for a cousin.

President Juan Manuel Santos, who visited Mocoa for a second straight day Sunday, declared the area a disaster zone and said the death toll stood at 210. But that was all but certain to rise because authorities said there were more than 200 injured, some in critical condition, and more than 200 others unaccounted for.

Dozens stood in the door of a hospital, hoping for news of family members who were not on the list of those confirmed dead or injured. Others frantically knocked on relatives' doors, hoping to find someone with information about their loved ones.

The disaster seemed to hit young people particularly hard. Santos said more than 40 of the dead identified so far were under 18, perhaps because youngsters were already in bed when the floodwaters struck.

Maria Cordoba, a 52-year-old resident who was trying to wash her belongings in a river, said two of her nephews, ages 6 and 11, were killed when their house was destroyed.

"The mother as well was totally beaten up" but managed to save her 18-month-old, she said.

Mocoa is vulnerable to flooding. It is surrounded by the three rivers in a natural basin created by the surrounding mountains.

The danger has grown worse in recent years because of deforestation, which eliminates some protection from runoff, and because many people built their homes close to the water.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

POLITICS

Brexit set to leave Gibraltar in limbo

Spain's top diplomat said Sunday that his government is urging the European Union to side with Madrid on the future of the British territory of Gibraltar, which lies at the southern tip of the Iberian Peninsula and Spain has long sought to reclaim.

Spanish Foreign Minister Alfonso Dastis told Spanish newspaper El Pais that Madrid insists it should get a veto over any agreements regarding the strategic enclave.

"When the U.K. leaves the EU, the member nation of the EU is Spain, and in the case of Gibraltar the EU is therefore obligated to side with Spain," Dastis said.

Brussels suggested last week that it was prepared to give Spain such a veto, angering people in Gibraltar. Spain has long sought to regain control of the strategic territory since ceding its control to Britain in 1713.

British Prime Minister Theresa May on Sunday offered reassurances to Gibraltar that the U.K. remains steadfastly committed to the overseas territory. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

GLOBAL DIGEST

STATEHOUSES

Black Lives Matter shifts focus

A new initiative launched by Black Lives Matter activists seeks to re-focus their efforts on state capitols. OurStates.org is the latest indication that left-leaning groups are turning to statehouses after concluding that many of the policies they oppose are being enacted at the state level. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHICAGO

Second teen sought in Facebook assault case

An arrest warrant has been issued for a second teenage boy in the sexual assault of a 15-year-old Chicago girl that was streamed live on Facebook, and further arrests are expected, police said. Police said they were looking for a 15-year-old suspect in the attack.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Robo-advisers look for rich investors

INVESTING

Automated service started out targeting millennials

Most investors think so-called robo-advisers are for younger folks who don't have much money to invest, let alone pay the fees and commissions charged by traditional financial planners.

But these days the growing and competitive online portfolio management service — which is akin to investing on cruise control — is targeting high net worth investors to go robo too.

Though the name conjures a cross between R2D2 and Siri, robo-advisors actually provide automated, algorithm-based portfolio management advice without much, if any, human interaction at a fraction of the fees charged by typical brokers.

Based on your risk tolerance, your money is invested in thousands of companies through low-cost index funds and Exchange-Traded Funds (ETFs) that track different sectors of the global economy, keeping investments diversified to reduce risk.

The online portfolio management service is targeting high net worth investors to go robo too. ISTOCK

Portfolios are monitored daily and automatically rebalanced if they drift beyond certain thresholds. And in most cases they have real advisers available by phone.

About a dozen robos have popped up in Canada in recent years, all aimed at making investing cheap and simple — which is not what is usually associated with six-figure-plus clients who often want the "more face-to-face and hand holding" of a human rather than virtual wealth manager, says Anthony Boright, president of InvestorCOM Inc.

"They started out targeting millennials and younger investors with smaller portfolios. Now they're clearly moving into the high net worth realm," he says.

But that's not necessarily a bad thing for affluent investors — some of whom are young professionals too, he says. "A larger portfolio doesn't have to be a speculative portfolio where you're trading and trading and trading," notes Boright.

Kyle Prevost, a millennial personal finance expert who created the popular youngandthrifty.ca blog with buddy Justin Bouchard, says it's a natural progression of the niche digital financial planning world.

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Each day, our liver is working hard to remove waste products and toxins from processed foods, unclean air, water and even our own body. But as we get exposed to increasingly more toxins, the liver struggles to remove them all and starts storing them in our body fat. We quickly notice the results in our energy levels, in our lack of youthful appearance – and surprisingly - on our waistlines.

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A detox, like a water or juice fast, is an excellent way to rid the body of stored toxins, but it is often difficult to abide by, and involves days or even weeks of feeling tired and sick. However, there are other ways.

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THE LIVER AND YOUR WAISTLINE

The liver is an important fat burning organ. If the liver is sluggish or clogged with waste material it will be less able to work, and fat will start to build up, under the skin, as belly fat and even inside the internal organs (as in a fatty liver). Making sure your liver is working well will help you flush fats from the body.

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metro VIEWS
Your essential daily news
Monday, April 3, 2017

URBAN ETIQUETTE ELLEN VANSTONE

THE QUESTION
How can I help solve big, complex issues like sky-rocketing house prices?

Dear Ellen,
The prices for housing in B.C. are so high, I don't know how I could ever encourage the situation to change at city hall or otherwise. What can I do to make sure my future is more than renting for life?
Priced Out

Dear Priced Out,

I will begin with a warning: My advice is going to sound facetious and possibly hopeless, but it's based in truth. And part of that truth is: there's no easy answer to your question, so I'm going to give you difficult Big Picture advice, instead of fake Quick Fix advice.

To start, there's nothing wrong with renting for life, but, yes, there is something wrong when sky-rocketing house prices cut out an entire generation of working stiffs due to a wealthy, privileged echelon squeezing them out of the market. In fact, not even renters are safe — right now in Toronto, longtime tenants are being evicted so landlords can play shell games with existing, inadequate rules, and jack up rents down the line.

The problem here is simple and goes to the heart of both etiquette and social justice: greed.

There's nothing wrong with making money, and I certainly strive to maximize my own income in a competitive freelance writing market. But when the game is fixed in favour of the already-wealthy, when patriarchal capitalists and free market propagandists profit off the backs of their fellow human beings, and accelerating income disparity actually kills people (sees Stats Can for data on "decreased life expectancy" for "people with lower incomes") — well, that's just plain rude!

My advice is to stand up against such ill-mannered injustice.

My advice is to stand up against such ill-mannered injustice: march peacefully, run for office, and/or support local candidates who support the entitlement of every person — regardless of origin or legal status — to clean drinking water, education, health care, freedom from violence and persecution, affordable shelter and freedom of expression.

Seriously, it's bad manners to rip off the less fortunate, and it's good manners to give them a fair shake. And decent, well-behaved people know in their heart of hearts what that actually means when it comes to the rules and laws that govern the housing market, and everything else.

Need advice?
Email Ellen:
askellen@metronews.ca

VICKY MOCHAMA

Police 'solidarity' wristbands shut the public out

Members of the Ottawa police are sporting wristbands in solidarity with the officer charged in the death of Abdirahman Abdi.

In a sign that something rotten has been allowed to fester, orders are coming in from police officers across the country. Over 1,200 of them have been sold.

Ottawa police Chief Charles Bordeleau has banned officers from wearing the wristbands while on duty and called on his force to consider the message the wristbands send to the community and the "long-term impact on public trust this could create," according to a CBC report.

What are these officers possibly thinking? A man is dead and they feel a need to wear a symbol of support for the person accused in his death? What sort of culture exists within policing that this can happen?

When did police officers start believing they were above us?

The drive to get justice for Abdi, a 37-year-old Somali man, is not solely about one man, nor is it solely about race. It is also about insisting on accountability and transparency from the public servants we entrust to stand between danger and us.

No one is saying the officer and his family don't deserve support. It is about trusting a judicial system, including law enforcement, to uphold the principles that govern our society.

It is the policing institutions and their leaders that have created the "us versus them" mentality, and it is up to them to address it.

The offer to buy the wristbands circulated through senior levels of the Ottawa police, according to the Ottawa Citizen.

Aside from Bordeleau's ban and admonishment from the Ottawa Police Services Board, no senior officer has spoken out against the wristband sales. Some officers have only done so anonymously because they fear reprisals from their own colleagues.

A culture of silence within the ranks is troubling.

By wearing wristbands in solidarity with an officer who has been accused of a serious crime, police officers in Ottawa and across the country are sending a message that they effectively stand against the people they serve. They stand against us.

That isn't just "us" as black and racialized people. For this group — my community — that trust has always stood on shaky ground; the police have, in many instances, been the violent manifestation of white supremacy.

Rather, I think more of "us" — that is, citizens (and indeed, non-citizens in this country) — who believe that no one should be above the law.

There needs to be a cultural change within police. Officers need to remember, and to be reminded, that they are primarily servants to the public.

At their best, they are role models.

They should stand in solidarity with us.

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For more coverage and reaction from the 2017 Juno Awards visit **metronews.ca**

Alessia lights up reflective Junos

MUSIC

Youth to fore, Trudeau toasts departed Cohen

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau asked for it, Bryan Adams delivered.

Sunday night's Juno Awards opened with a skit that had the prime minister phoning in a request for Summer of '69 and the show closed with an all-star performance that also included Sarah McLachlan, Alessia Cara and members of rock bands Billy Talent and the Arkells.

Earlier, the show mixed comedy from co-host Russell Peters and sombre tributes to two of the year's big winners, Gord Downie and the late Leonard Cohen.

Cohen won album of the year for You Want It Darker, making it the second posthumous Juno honour for Montreal's poet laureate. Cohen, who died in November, also won artist of the year during a gala dinner on Saturday.

Trudeau introduced a tribute performance for Cohen — who he called "one of the greatest artists Canada has ever produced" — by recalling when the Montreal poet-songwriter was an honorary pallbearer for his father Pierre Trudeau's funeral.

"I remember a gathering the night before the funeral.... That was the night I learned Leonard — a great man — but not a big hugger."

Feist performed a cover of Cohen's 1967 song Hey, That's No Way To Say Goodbye, backed by a slideshow of black and white photos of the musician.

Downie did not attend the show but appeared in a pre-recorded acceptance speech after being named the winner of the songwriter of the year Juno for his Secret Path solo project, which recounts the life of 12-year-old Chanie Wenjack, who died in 1966 after running away from a residential school. Secret Path also won the best adult alternative album and recording package of the year awards.

"Thank you for stepping into the wind, for following the sound you've been sort of hearing your entire life. For looking to see what has been bothering you a little bit," Downie said in a pre-recorded acceptance speech for the songwriter award.

Despite being nominated for five Junos on the back of his hit album Views, Toronto rapper Drake — who didn't attend the ceremony — didn't pick up a single award. THE CANADIAN PRESS

1 On a night when Canadian music's youth shone in many of the major categories, **Shawn Mendes** took home his first Juno when he won the Fan Choice Award.

2 A moving musical tribute to the late **Leonard Cohen** was spearheaded by indie pop singer **Feist;** the singer-songwriter, who died in November, won the Junos for album of the year and artist of the year.

3 **Alessia Cara** gave a shout out to her home town of Brampton, Ont. after she took home the Juno for pop album of the year for Know It All.

4 Prime Minister **Justin Trudeau** and wife **Sophie Gregoire Trudeau** took to the stage to introduce the Leonard Cohen tribute segment.

5 Rock group **The Strumbellas** took single of the year for their smash hit Spirits, which they performed live.

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Info Session: Wednesday, Apr 5, 11 am
VPL (Central Branch) | Level 3 Meeting room
350 W Georgia St, Vancouver

Follow the footsteps laid out in the good old days

ADVICE

Grandparents' generation made so much more with less

Gail Vaz-Oxlade
For Metro Canada

We like to talk about the good old days. Life was simpler. There was more time to think. True, if you count the time you had to think as you smashed the laundry on the rocks down by the river. Or the simplicity of hanging your laundry out on the line in -40 degree weather.

I'll give you that our grandparents had a different life. And while we've outpaced our grands in terms of the number of toys we have and the conveniences we can now employ, we've lost sight of a bunch of lessons we should have taken from them. Like these:

1. Don't buy stuff you can't pay for. Truth is our grands didn't have much choice on this one. Credit cards didn't come to Canada until the mid-1960s, and the line of credit wasn't handed out to every Tom, Dick and Harriet until the mid-1980s. So the best our ancestors could do was run a tab at a local store. By and large, if they didn't have the money to pay for a thing, they simply had to do without it.

2. Things have multiple uses. Granny didn't have a knife that only peeled potatoes, cut apples or slice avocados. Now we have a tool with a specific use for just about everything we do. And just because a thing got old didn't mean Gramps dumped it; he would repurpose just about anything he could lay his hands on to do a job for which it was not initially intended.

3. Fix it yourself. The ability to fix things resides with those who don't have the money to hire someone else to do it. My former next-door neighbour could fix anything. It didn't matter how broken it was, Ron would find the pieces and the stick-it to make it whole again. But now that it's so easy just to buy a new one, most of us don't bother fixing stuff. And since manufacturers know we'll buy a new one, they keep shortening the life expectancy on the stuff they're making. It's almost to the point where you can chuck the whole thing in the garbage before you take it out of the box!

How often do you wear out a pair of shoes before you buy another? You know that your grandmother wore hers until they needed new soles. BETH J. HARPAZ /GETTY IMAGES

4. Function beats fashion. Grandma may not have worn the most stylish shoes, but she got her money's worth out of them. She wore those puppies until they needed new soles, then she handed them to Grandpa who fixed 'em so she could wear them some more. How many pairs of shoes do you have? And how often do you wear out a pair of shoes before you buy another? Ditto handbags, jeans, shirts, jackets, watches, cellphones, TVs. . . and everything else we throw money at.

5. If you don't save some money, you won't have any. Our grands didn't need tax incentives to save money. They knew that if they didn't put ten cents aside when they earned a dollar, come time to hang up their axes there'd be nothing to buy food with. Such a simple idea. So sensible. They knew that saving money wasn't optional.

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FASHION

Uproar over heels targeted at babies

An American footwear company has sparked disapproval on social media over high heeled shoes for babies.

Pee Wee Pumps says babies will be the "belle of the ball" in the shoes.

But the BBC reports people are criticizing the company amid a growing concern at what is seen as the sexualization of children.

Company founder Michele Holbrook says the shoes are intended as a photo prop only and meant to be "funny and cute."

In a post this week on the company's Facebook page, an infant in heels sits on a miniature motorbike with the caption: "This little #Diva, defining cool posing in her #PeeWeePumps."

The image was criticized by a number of the site's users, who suggested it was "wrong" and "disgusting" to portray babies in such a way.

"This is not ok," wrote Melissa Balinski. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Pee Wee Pumps were only intended as a photo prop only, the company said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TECHNOLOGY

Automation is taking on even the most complex tasks

Genna Buck
Metro | Toronto

Beware....robots are coming for your job

Earlier this year, the head of the Canadian government's economic growth advisory council warned that up to 40 per cent of the country's jobs could disappear within the next decade due to technology automating so many jobs. ISTOCK

Think about your job duties. How much of your work is exactly the same, day after day?

Chances are that repetitive, somewhat mindless tasks take up a good part of your time. And that, says Sunil Johal, who studies workforce automation as Policy Director at the University of Toronto's Mowat Centre, means you're at risk of being at least partially replaced by a computer or a robot.

"Generally speaking, the more your occupation is involved in highly routinized functions, the more likely it is that you are at risk of your job being automated or migrated online," he said.

Sure, no machine can replicate the human side of your job, he added. But "a slow, creeping byproduct of automation is people shifting into roles that (are) complementary to technology rather than in direct competition with it."

A robot teacher can't comfort a crying child. But it can teach her to hold basic, natural conversations in French, Chinese, Spanish or Norwegian. There's an app for that, several actually, and they're pretty effective. Also free.

A computer wouldn't be very convincing (yet) standing up and arguing on your behalf in court. But it can pore over thousands of digital documents, flag potentially relevant ones and organize the results — automating a lot of legal legwork.

An overlooked aspect of this trend, Johal said, is the advent of artificial intelligence and machine learning. Increasingly complex tasks are being automated. Even if a computer can't do your job just yet, it may be able to teach itself to do it.

The bottom line, he explained, is there will be less work to go around. And the consequences of that may not be what we expect.

"In some cases, that will mean doing different types of work, in some cases that will mean doing less work, and in some cases that will mean your work will no longer exist in that field and you may need to retrain," he said.

Consider the changes in the banking industry. Three-quarters of Canadians now do most of their banking online.

Bank tellers, Johal said, belong to a group of vanishing "pseudo white-collar" jobs that don't require a diploma or degree. And their work is repetitive — a prime candidate for automation.

But teller jobs haven't disappeared. They've just declined, and their duties have radically changed.

Bank branches, in the words of Bharat Masrani, the CEO of TD Bank, have become "a sales machine." And all of Canada's Big Five banks have adapted their sales and customer service practices.

Linda*, who started as a teller at a financial services trust in Mississauga, Ont. in 1989, saw the transition first-hand. Back then, ATMs could take deposits and spit out money, but that was about it.

"We were pretty much order-takers. There wasn't a focus on selling at that time," Linda said.

That changed around the turn of the millennium, and it coincided with the company being bought out by a huge, high-tech, modern bank.

By the time Linda left her job as a manager in 2015, the sales machine was a finely tuned, automated money-maker.

All day, messages pop up on tellers' computers, encouraging them to sell.

> **The more your occupation is involved in highly routinized functions, the more likely it is that you are at risk of your job being automated or migrated online.**
> Sunil Johal, University of Toronto's Mowat Centre

"Algorithms built into the system looked at a customer's profile and would say, 'Talk about a line of credit' or 'Talk about overdraft protection,'" Linda said.

If you look at the technological changes from a bank's perspective, the trend towards high-pressure selling makes some intuitive sense, Johal said.

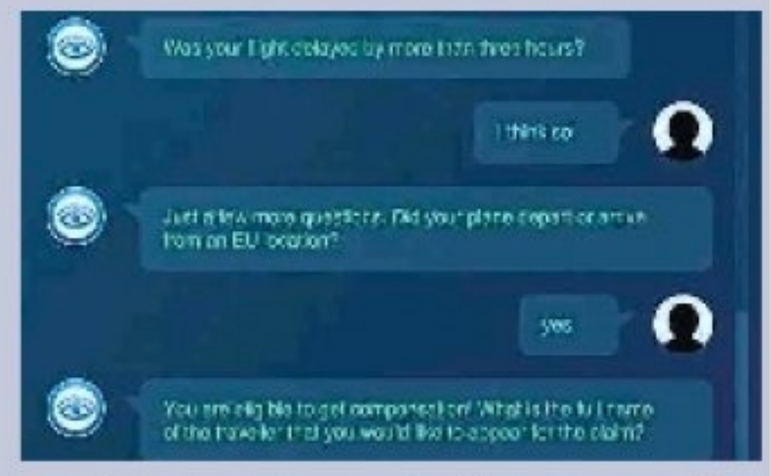
"They're starting to think about well, if we have these folks on staff, and we don't need them to do these fairly routine functions, can we get them involved more on the sales side, on the customer service side," he said.

"We're in the midst of a dramatic transformation in a number of different sectors and banking is just one of them."

*Name has been changed

There's a bot for everything

Think because you're a professional with an advanced degree, you're safe from automation? Think again.


Was your flight delayed by more than three hours?
I think so
Just a few more questions. Did your plane depart or arrive from an EU location?
yes

1 The therapy bot

If you have Tess in your pocket, you always have someone to talk to. At least, that's the idea behind the therapy chat-bot from California start-up X2A1. Through artificial intelligence, Tess can carry on a text conversation while performing cognitive behavioural therapy, caregiver support, psychological coaching and several other tasks. Her creators had the insight that most conversations with therapists follow a predictable template, and a lot of general mental-health advice, like "focus on the present moment," applies to everybody.

2 The doctor bot

Given a medical and genetic profile, IBM's artificial intelligence platform Watson spits out the same treatment plan as an oncologist would in 99 per cent of cancer cases. And using natural language processing, it is able to absorb new medical knowledge as it's published — an amount of reading no human doctor could keep up with.

3 The lawyer bot

DoNotPay (pictured above) is a free Facebook Messenger-based chatbot. It was created by 20-year-old Stanford University student Joshua Browder. It asks users simple questions in plain English, then uses their answers to automatically fill out legal forms and generate legal letters. It has already written letters that have overturned 160,00 parking fines. Now it's being used in the U.S., Canada and the U.K. to process refugees' asylum claims.

GENNA BUCK/METRO

metro SPORTS

Russell Henley overcame a four-shot deficit to win the Houston Open and book his spot at the Masters by closing with a 7-under 65

Set to make it rain

MLB

Donaldson looks to improve his all-star stats

Josh Donaldson's name has already been a part of the most successful seasons the Blue Jays have had since their World Series glory a quarter of a century ago.

He arrived from Oakland in 2015, gave Toronto its first American League most valuable player since George Bell in 1987, and helped turn the dreams of a return to the post-season into reality, with appearances in the ALCS both years.

There's no questioning his impact, and there's little doubt how much the Jays will count on him in 2017. The question is whether he remains in Toronto beyond 2018.

That possible departure is still two full seasons away but, unlike the relatively quiet markets for Jose Bautista and Edwin Encarnacion this off-season, most major-league teams will be lining up for a potential star-studded free-agent class of Donaldson, Manny Machado and Bryce Harper.

Donaldson will be 33 in the winter of 2018, and the Jays will likely still have money tied up in catcher Russell Martin and shortstop Troy Tulowitzki, so there may be front-office discussions on whether the Jays will be willing to pony up for the third baseman.

The Blue Jays kick off their season at Camden Yards in Baltimore on Monday at 3 p.m. ET

The Blue Jays have come to rely on third baseman Josh Donaldson to set the tone with his intensity and his bat. CHRIS O'MEARA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ROSTER MOVES

Blue Jays place Osuna on DL, release Upton

The Blue Jays finalized their opening day roster Sunday, placing closer **Roberto Osuna** on the 10-day disabled list with a sore neck and releasing outfielder Melvin Upton Jr.

Right-hander Dominic Leone was recalled from Triple-A to take Osuna's roster spot. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

But while the Jays, and everyone else, shied away from 30-homer-plus power hitters this winter, Donaldson should be an exception to the rule.

He is one of the game's offensive models. His MVP status and a career 32.5 WAR (wins above replacement) are indicative of his elite status among major-leaguers but it is his dedication to improving himself that impresses most.

Donaldson brings an intriguing mix: intensely competitive, fearless, intelligent, and outspoken when he needs to be.

"Watching J.D. take the field every day, the intensity and passion he plays with, sets the tone for younger guys either on our team, or in the organization," Tulowitzki said. "He has a big personality, he definitely has fun, but he locks in when it comes time to play."

Donaldson certainly feels he can get better after winning the MVP award in 2015 and finishing fourth in the voting last year. His numbers in two seasons with the Jays, though — a. 291 average, a .946 OPS, 78 homers and 222 RBIs — will be tough to improve on.

"If I stay healthy and if I continue to do the things I'm doing, and strive to get better, then I think I can get better ... numbers-wise, and just helping us win more," Donaldson said.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

NHL

Sharks suffer key injury in latest win

Tomas Hertl scored twice in the first period and Martin Jones made 29 saves Sunday as the San Jose Sharks defeated the Vancouver Canucks 3-1 after losing Joe Thornton to an apparent injury to his left leg.

San Jose forward Jannik Hansen picked up an assist in his return to Vancouver for the Sharks (44-28-7), who have won 11 straight regular-season games at Rogers Arena dating back to Jan. 21, 2012. Patrick Marleau added an empty-netter.

Sven Baertschi replied for the Canucks (30-39-9).

Already minus centre Logan Couture because of a facial injury, Thornton crumpled to the ice with about three minutes left in the first when he ran into Vancouver forward Michael Chaput from behind.

The 37-year-old centre managed to get to the San Jose bench under his own power, but couldn't put any weight on his left leg and had to be helped to the locker-room.

SUNDAY in Vancouver

3	1
SHARKS	CANUCKS

The Sharks entered play one point up on the Flames for third in Pacific Division after falling 5-2 in Calgary on Friday.

Calgary hosted Anaheim later Sunday. THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

D-Backs strike in bottom of 9th to walk off Giants

Chris Owings singled home the winning run and the Arizona Diamondbacks scored twice with two outs in the bottom of the ninth inning off new San Francisco closer Mark Melancon to beat the Giants 6-5 in a wild season opener Sunday.

The Giants wasted a record-breaking performance by ace Madison Bumgarner, who retired his first 16 batters and became the first pitcher to hit two home runs on Opening Day.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Hornets' win eases pain of Westbrook triple-double

Kemba Walker scored 29 points to help the Charlotte Hornets overcome Russell Westbrook's sixth straight triple-double to beat the Oklahoma City Thunder 113-101 on Sunday.

Westbrook finished with 40 points, 13 rebounds and 10 assists. It was Westbrook's 40th triple-double of the season, putting him one behind Oscar Robertson's NBA record of 41, set during the 1961-62 season. It was Westbrook's first career triple-double against Charlotte. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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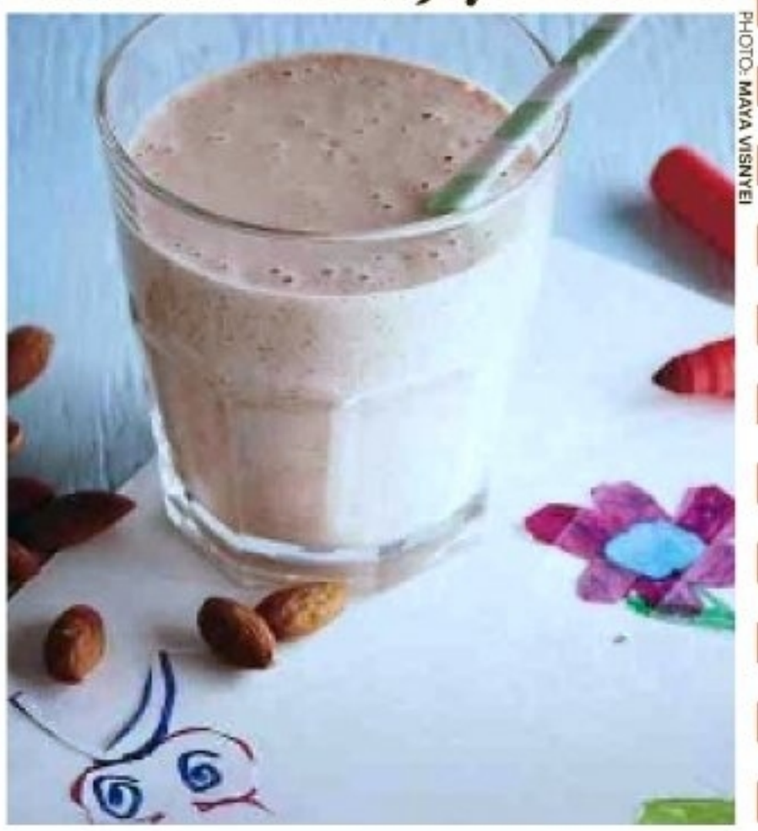

PHOTO: MAYA VISNYEI

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

The protein you get from Greek yogurt and almond butter is a great way to start a morning with energy that will keep you going. And we would not be mad if we added a shot of espresso.

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1. Throw the yogurt, coconut, soy milk and almond butter in the blender and whiz until mixed. Pour, serve and go.

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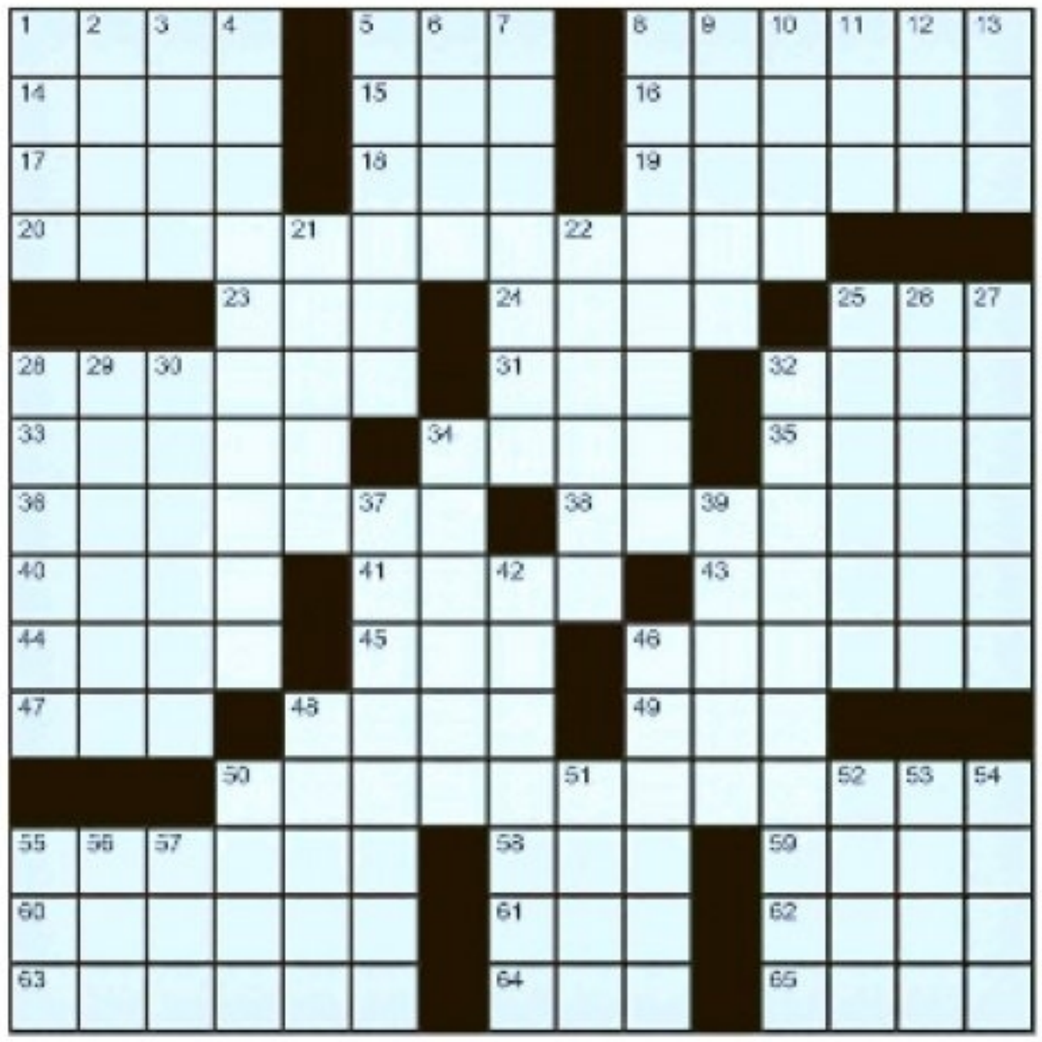
CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS
1. "When pigs fly!": 2 wds.
5. "The Young Pope" airer
8. Kind of demure
14. Songbook standard: "__ Smile Be Your Umbrella"
15. _-Rock (Music genre)
16. Portage __, in Winnipeg
17. Sort of sporty spirit
18. Roosted
19. Topped out
20. They shall yield May flowers: 2 wds.
23. Modern-day snicker
24. Vinegar variety
25. 1979: "__ Eyes" by Robert John
28. The yang to Dr. Jekyll's yin: 2 wds.
31. Logging tool
32. Equivalent
33. "10 Things __ About You" (1999)
34. Dither
35. Asset
36. Innovative/original
38. Champion a cause
40. Ready. Willing. __.
41. Back
43. 'Sea' mammal
44. British running great Sebastian's
45. Ms. Ryan
46. "This Guy's in Love with You" by Herb __
47. Proof of passengership, puny-ly
48. Gym jumper's need
49. Train's one-of-some
50. This city in Quebec on Osisko Lake has a hyphenated name
55. Rigidity
58. Val-_'__, Quebec
59. Carpeting material
60. Soar like mankind
61. __-Margret
62. Buzz Aldrin's employer, famously
63. Was in the waiting
64. Hences
65. Tom Jones: "__ a Lady"

DOWN
1. BC neighbour
2. Permeate
3. News agency in Russia, __-TASS
4. Michael J. Fox sitcom: 2 wds.
5. Inconvenience
6. Dull
7. Armchair's footstool
8. Quaint just-covering-the-shoulders garbs
9. Obvious
10. Those who support the legislation might give them
11. Tattoo artist's supply
12. "Glee" character played by Jane Lynch
13. "I Guess __ Rather Be in Colorado" by John Denver
21. Shade of green
22. More like a candle's material
25. Show respect as a soldier
26. Funny entertainer
27. Gobi __
28. Way to win a Razzie Award
29. Antelope of South Africa
30. Prince of Denmark
32. Shrimp of British Columbia: 2 wds.
34. Readying for REM
37. Super-shielded as some guards
39. __ opposites
42. They contain appointments, meetings, luncheons, etc.
46. Squirrel sustenances
48. Explorer's course
50. On the __ to recovery
51. _!_! (Hair removal tool advertised on TV)
52. "ER" star Mr. Wyle
53. Serving of reality
54. Regrettably
55. Drake's music style
56. "All __ Got to Do" by The Beatles
57. "Follow You Down" by __ Blossoms

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

Aries March 21 - April 20
A family discussion with a female relative will be lively today. This is a good day for dealing with family matters and anything pertaining to the home or perhaps a parent.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
You feel personal about your possessions today, which is why you won't want to lend anything to anyone. Be careful when out shopping, because your common sense is weak.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
You have definite moneymaking ideas today and ideas about how you want to spend money. Just be careful that you don't go overboard. Use caution.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
Today the Moon is in your sign, which empowers you, but also makes you a bit more emotional than usual. Don't get carried away with anything, especially this evening.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
You will prefer to work alone or behind the scenes today, because it feels better. You have been out there flying your colors, and today you need a break.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
A conversation with a female friend will be important today. Why not share your hopes and dreams for the future with this person to get her feedback?

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Whatever you do today, you will be a bit high-viz, especially in the eyes of parents, bosses and VIPs — including the police. Just be aware of this. (No public fights in elevators.)

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
If you can travel anywhere today, even just a short trip, it will please you because you need a change of scenery. Visit galleries, museums and "different" places.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
It's a good day for important discussions about taxes, debt, shared property and inheritances. You are cooperative, and this is good. However, don't give away the farm.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Your co-operation with others is necessary today, because the Moon is opposite your sign. This is something you can handle easily. Relax.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Do something today to make you feel better organized. Set aside 15 minutes to tidy your workstation or where you live. Do something now, because you will like yourself for it later.

Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
Take a long lunch today or spend time participating in playful activities with children. Sports, the arts and musical performances also will please you. It's a good date day.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

	3	2		8		1	9	
4					5			3
	1		8		3			
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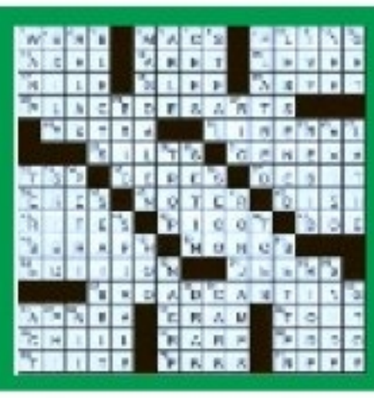

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